

ARGUMENTS/REMARKS

Response to restriction requirement

Affirming previous telephone conversations, applicant traverses the restriction requirement, elects claims 1-43 for prosecution, and withdraws claims 44-45 from prosecution for presentation in a divisional application.

Response to rejections and objections

In view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 18-35, applicant has cancelled claims 1-17 and 36-43 in favor of their presentation for consideration in a continuation application.

Claims 18-35 remain for prosecution in this application. Claim 25 has been amended to correct a minor typographical error.

Claims 18-35 are indicated as "objected to" in paragraph 7 of the Office Action Summary. The Detailed Action, however, discusses claims 18-35 only on page 9 to indicate they contain allowable subject matter, and does not raise any objection specifically directed to them.

Accordingly, applicant concludes the outstanding restriction requirement was the sole basis for classifying claims 18-35 as "objected to" and now that the election has been affirmed the claims are in condition for allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 18-35 are now allowable, and reconsideration and allowance of the claims in this case are respectfully requested. If there are any outstanding issues, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's attorney at 203-838-8037.

Appln. No. 09/801,417
Amdt. Dated June 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 10, 2004

Docket No. 2000-0251A

An associate power of attorney to the undersigned is attached, together with a notification of change of correspondence address.

Respectfully,
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